

## **RECOVERY FUNDS AT WORK IN OHIO'S SIXTH DISTRICT**

### **Wilson Announces Veterans Affairs to Distribute \$250 Checks to Veterans in Ohio's Sixth District**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has posted that it is releasing funding to Ohio's Sixth District as specified by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Eligible veterans and their survivors in Ohio's Sixth District are set to receive a one-time payment of \$250 to mitigate the effects of the current economy.

"This economy is hurting families all across the country, but the jobless rate for veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and who are 18 and older is 11.2 percent," Wilson said. "That's significantly higher than the corresponding 8.8 percent rate for non-veterans in the same age group. Though \$250 won't solve all their problems, but it tells our veterans and military retirees that we know they're hurting and that we hope this will not only help them, but help the economy."

To be eligible for the \$250 payment, VA beneficiaries must have received compensation, pension, dependency and indemnity compensation, or spina bifida benefits at any time between November 2008 and January 2009.

No application is necessary. VA will use its existing payment records to determine eligibility to the \$250 payment. Beneficiaries will receive their payments in the same way (either by direct deposit or mail) they receive their monthly VA benefits. VA will inform beneficiaries and the public when releasing the payments. This payment is not countable in determining eligibility for VA pension or Parents' DIC, nor will the Internal Revenue Service tax this payment.

The law allows only one \$250 payment per individual. VA beneficiaries who also receive benefits from the Social Security Administration or Railroad Retirement Board will be paid through those agencies, and will therefore not receive the payment from VA.

VA will begin distributing the payments in June 2009.